IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.:	10/614,399	Confirmation No.:	**5901**
Applicant:	ABRAMS, L.	TC/A.U.	1771
Filed:	July 3, 2003	Examiner:	JUSKA, C.
Docket No.:	4811-18		
For:	FLOCKED ARTICLES AND METHODS OF MAKING SAME		

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance to address further the Notice of Allowability ("Notice") having a mailing date of November 8, 2007.

In the Notice, the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance were that:

> Specifically, the new phrase "wherein the formed mold insert retains the three-dimensional shape after the forming step and before positioning in the mold, and wherein a first orientation of the flock fibers before the introducing step is substantially the same as a second orientation of the flock fibers after the introducing step" is not taught or suggested by the prior art.

Based on the Notice, the patentability of all other independent and dependent claims is assumed to be based upon the elements as set forth in such claims and that such claims meet all criteria for patentability under §101, §102, §103 and §112.

As is clear from MPEP 1302.14,

> "The statement [of reasons for allowance] is not intended to necessarily state all the reasons for allowance or all the details why claims are allowed

and should not be written to specifically or impliedly state that all the reasons for allowance are set forth."

While the above-stated may be a stated reason for allowing some independent claims, Applicant submits that some independent claims have a different reason for allowance and that some independent claims have other reasons for allowance.

Specifically, the prior art fails to teach the following features of Claims 27, 53 and 57:

27. A method, comprising:

providing a flocked transfer sheet, a pre-formed, self-supporting, and thermosetting adhesive film, and a thermoplastic backing film;

thereafter laminating the flocked transfer sheet, the thermosetting adhesive film, and the backing film together to form a mold insert; and

forming the mold insert into a three-dimensional shape that substantially corresponds to a surface of at least a portion of a mold;

positioning the formed mold insert in the mold;

while the formed mold insert is positioned in the mold, introducing a resin into the mold to form a molded article comprising resin and the formed mold insert, wherein the thermosetting adhesive film is thermoset before the introducing step, wherein the formed mold insert retains the three-dimensional shape after the forming step and before positioning in the mold, and wherein a first orientation of the flock fibers before the introducing step is substantially the same as a second orientation of the flock fibers after the introducing step.

53. A method, comprising:

forming a plurality of adhesive-containing areas and at least one area free of adhesive on a first surface of a backing film;

applying flock to the adhesive-containing areas of the backing film but not to the at least one area of the backing film that is free of adhesive, wherein, in the adhesive-containing areas, a thermosetting adhesive is positioned between the flock and backing film;

forming the backing film into a three-dimensional mold insert for placement in a mold;

positioning the formed mold insert in the mold;

while the formed mold insert is positioned in the mold, introducing a resin into the mold to form a molded article comprising resin and the mold insert, wherein the thermosetting adhesive film is substantially fully thermoset before the introducing step, wherein the formed mold insert retains the three-dimensional shape after the forming step and before positioning in the mold, and wherein a first orientation of the flock fibers before the introducing step is substantially the same as a second orientation of the flock fibers after the introducing step.

57. A method, comprising:

(a) providing a flocked transfer sheet, a pre-formed, self-supporting, and thermosetting adhesive film, and a thermoplastic backing film;

(b) thereafter laminating the flocked transfer sheet, the thermosetting adhesive film, and the backing film together to form a mold insert, wherein the laminating step comprises the substeps:

(B1) heat applying the thermosetting adhesive to the flocked release sheet to form an intermediate transfer, wherein the thermosetting adhesive is in the thermoplastic state after the heat applying step;

(B2) cutting the intermediate transfer into wanted and unwanted portions, the wanted portion having a final desired shape;

(B3) removing the unwanted portions leaving the wanted portion of the intermediate transfer; and

(B4) laminating the wanted portion to the backing film to form the mold insert; and

(c) forming the mold insert into a three-dimensional shape that substantially corresponds to a surface of at least a portion of a mold;

(d) positioning the formed mold insert in the mold;

(e) while the formed mold insert is positioned in the mold, introducing a resin into the mold to form a molded article comprising resin and the formed mold insert, wherein the thermosetting adhesive film is thermoset before the introducing step (e), wherein a

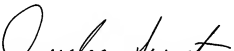
release sheet is affixed to a first surface defined by the flock fibers and the thermosettable adhesive layer to an opposing second surface defined by the flock fibers, and wherein the three-dimensional shape of the backing film prevents dislodgment of the mold insert from a desired position in the mold during the introducing step (e).

Although the Applicant believes that no fees are due for filing this Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance, please charge any fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.

Date: Feb. 11, 2008

By: 

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